THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) Yes, Sir. With effect from January 01, 2004, a defined contribution pension scheme is mandatory for all new entrants to Central Government service, except to the Armed Forces, at the first stage, replacing the existing system of defined benefit system.

(b) and (c) Government proposes to have legislative framework providing, *inter-alia*, a statutory Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFDRA) entrusted with the responsibility of promoting and ensuring the orderly growth of the pension sector. To safeguard the interests of the subscribers, penalties are proposed for non-compliance with the regulatory provisions. The New Pension System is already in place with effect from 01.01.2004.

Abolition of SSC

†1105. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

MS. SUSHILA TRIYA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to close Staff Selection Commission;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total number of employees engaged in SSC alongwith annual expenditure incurred on their pay and other works; and

(d) the decision taken by Government about future of these employees in the post enclosure scenario of SSC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present the sanctioned strength of the Staff Selection Commission is 515. The total expenditure incurred by the Staff Selection Commission in the year 2005-06 was 18.05 crores.

(d) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.